

Publications Committee

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AUSTIN, TEXAS,

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ADDRESS BY BOARD OF REGENTS

TO THE ALUMNI

AND ALL OTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN STUDENTS
AT THE UNIVERSITY.

AUSTIN:

BEN C. JONES & CO., STATE PRINTERS.

JULY, 1893.

ADDRESS BY BOARD OF REGENTS.

To the Alumni and all others who have been Students at the University of Texas:

The fathers of the Republic of Texas decided that the common weal would be promoted by offering to the youth of the commonwealth the opportunity of securing the best educational advantages *at home*. The wisdom of this policy must be evident. It has been adopted by nearly every State in the Union, and has been incorporated into our organic law ever since, by her own will, Texas became an integral part of that Union. Even as the progress, the prosperity, and the happiness of a people depend largely upon the measure of their intellectual development, so their devotion to home and to State, upon which rests the safety of our free institutions, depends mainly upon the attainment of that development in such an atmosphere and amid such surroundings as will foster the growth of those sentiments which distinguish the citizen patriot from the alien. With this double purpose in view—the growth of patriotism and the encouragement of education—the State of Texas has established this institution.

On the 27th of September, 1893, the University of Texas will enter upon its eleventh session. Its equipment in every respect has grown better every year, until now its undergraduate courses are equal to any similar courses offered in the United States; and students may come with the full assurance that they will receive instruction from a learned and zealous corps of teachers, who will compare favorably with those in the same branches in any institution in this country.

In the last three years a well equipped chemical laboratory has been erected; the School of Biology has been established; the library has been increased by several thousand carefully selected volumes; Brackenridge Hall has been built (thanks to the generosity of one of the Regents); the School of Applied Mathematics has received from the Twenty-third Legislature an appropriation of \$4000, and the library an appropriation of \$5000; an instructor in elocution has been appointed; one of the finest collections of coins and medals in the United States has been given by Mr. S. M. Swenson, now of New York, but formerly a citizen of Texas; and steam heating has been applied to the main building, with a sufficient appropriation by the last Legislature to extend it to all the others.

But only to a limited extent, so far, have the youth of Texas availed themselves of the generous offer made by the State; of the advantages which you, better than all others, know may be enjoyed at the University. This must be due to the lack of knowledge of these advantages; and it has oc-

curred to the Regents that you will cheerfully do all in your power to extend the usefulness of the University by making it better known to the people. The Regents believe that the future of the University depends largely upon your fidelity to its interests. Strange to say, there are many who, either from ignorance or self-interest, are hostile to your Alma Mater. The former must be enlightened, and the latter must be met by your loving zeal. It will be an unselfish work. You, in common with the Regents, can have no aim save the good of the young men and the young women of the State. Neither patriotism nor philanthropy can propose a nobler end.

With your active cōoperation the next session will be the beginning of a new era in the history of the University. Hundreds of students may be added to its rolls, crowding its class-rooms with the best brain and character of Texas. Thus the munificence of the State will be justified by the benefits conferred on her children.

Will you not aid in this grand work? *We know you will.*

The means are evident: 1. Conversation with individuals. 2. Occasional paragraphs in your local paper. 3. Addresses before teachers' institutes, at school exhibitions, at picnics, and before any other public assembly where such matters may be properly introduced. In this way the entire State may be informed concerning the University—what it is, and the work which it is designed to do. 4. By recent enactment of the Board of Regents students pay \$30 upon entrance, and no further payment of entrance fee or tuition is required, though the student should desire to pass through all the departments of the University—Academic, Law, and Medical. 5. At his home institution the students form friendships and acquaintances which will be of value, business and otherwise, all through life; and these relations will bind the whole State in a closer and more fraternal union.

The University of Texas is controlled by neither trust nor syndicate. The State is the sole stockholder, and the dividends—scholarship, enlightenment, patriotism—are of far greater value than any that ever gladdened the heart of a capitalist. It is an investment, the profits of which are certain, and are shared by the whole people.

With full assurance of a prompt, hearty, and effective response, we are cordially your friends,

THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS,

By THOS. D. WOOTEN,
President of the Board.